

Catharine E. (Bretz) Frank, (18 May 1831, Fort Hunter Dauphin County, PA – 7 Dec 1900, Philadelphia, PA), Published in the Newport News.

Mrs. **Catharine E. Frank** died of apoplexy, Friday morning of last week, at 7:10 o'clock, at the home of her son-in-law, **C.A. Stager**, 2535 N. 11th street, Philadelphia, she having been taken from her home in this place to that city on November 14th, in hope of benefiting her health by change of scene and special medical treatment, having been from the failure of her locomotion helpless for more than a year. In October, 1899 she was overcome in her sitting room, while pursuing her routine duties of household and falling to the floor sustained injuries by shock and otherwise, that were thought would be permanent, but her physician was satisfied that she had entirely recovered from the effects three months after the accident. At the same time he observed the slow but steady progress of the apoplectic malady that he had first discovered four years before, and his treatment administered to her since that time had been with the purpose in view of preventing a fatal apoplectic attack as long as possible.

When she left home three weeks ago, she was conveyed in her invalid's chair. She then remarked that she was riding away from home in the baggage car and would return the same way, meaning that she never again expected to see her old home. The first week of her stay in Philadelphia was not attended by any unfavorable symptoms, but during the last two weeks of her life her sufferings were severe, she being apparently afflicted with a complication of diseases, although they were all attributable to the one cause apoplexy in its various stages. Her last hours were peaceful, however and death came as a welcome guest to her as the end of all pain and a transition into the realms of the hopeful and blessed in eternity.

While she was best known as the wife and later widow of **Joseph W. Frank**, the hardware merchant and one of our most prominent citizens, whose death occurred Friday night, July 2, 1897, she had a large circle of friends who were attached to her by reason of her many good qualities and kindness to everybody, while the deep and active interest manifested by her in the welfare of the church of her choice for many years, combined to cause her to be one of the best loved women of this community.

She was a daughter of **John** and **Catharine Bretz**, and a sister of Ex-County Commissioner **George R. Bretz**, deceased. She was born in Fort Hunter, Dauphin County, Pa. May 18, 1831. She was united in marriage with **Joseph W. Frank** by Rev. Mr. Kuhn, June 9, 1852. They had two children, a son and daughter. The son's life was of short duration. The daughter, **Mrs. Stager**, survives, and has a son, **Fredrick**, aged six years.

Funeral services were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stager Sunday evening. Their pastor, Rev. A.S. Bromer, of Grace Reformed church, 11th and Huntingdon streets, officiated. Rev. James Crawford, D.D. pastor of Christ Reformed church, Green street and Mrs. Frank's pastor at Newport 25 years ago was present by invitation and responded to Rev. Mr. Bromer's request to assist in the services by delivering a brief eulogy, knowing Mrs. Frank was brought to this place Monday afternoon on Train #1, arriving at 1:30 o'clock, and was taken to her late home on Walnut and Second streets. There it lay in his handsome coffin, surrounded by beautiful floral tributes from friends until Tuesday morning, when after the burial rites of the Reformed Church had been performed by Rev. E.D. Meixell, who also preached a sermon, it was taken to Newport

cemetery for interment. The spacious rooms and large hall down stairs of the Frank residence were crowded with sympathizing friends during the services. The pallbearers were W.H. Gantt, B.M. Eby, J.E. Leiby, and T.H. Butturf. Buried in Newport Cemetery.

Philadelphia Inquirer, Monday, December 10, 1900

FRANK, On December 7, 1900, **Catharine E.**, wife of the late **Joseph W. Frank**. Funeral service on Monday morning at 10 o'clock at No. 2535 North Eleventh Street. To proceed to Newport, Perry County, on 12.25 train, via Pennsylvania Railroad. Services and interment Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock.